

Your Pathway to Becoming a Successful Grant Writer

Prepare

Information & Documentation

- 501c3 Documents & Tax Exemption
- Board of Directors List with Biographies
- Mission/Vision/Purpose
- Staff List with Biographies
- List Projects & Blue Sky Ideas
- Guidestar.org Registration
- Tax form – e-postcard or 1099
- Annual Operating Budget, Profit & Loss Statement, Annual Report, Grant Budget (Itemized Description on Usage)
- Statement of Need

Gather

Data

- # of Youth Served
- Geographical Area
- Impact
 - Continuing Education
 - Academic Success
- Demographics
 - Age
 - Ethnicity
 - Gender
 - Income Levels
 - Education Status & Levels

Learn the Process

- Search for the grant
- Contact the funding source for a meeting
- Before filling out application, carefully read through the criteria and follow instructions.
- Gather all information and fill out application
- WAIT- Could be months..
- If approved, at the end of the term, submit a grant report.

Articulate What You Do

By having your program, you are doing more than what you think. It goes beyond hitting a drum or twirling a flag, you are actually doing a lot more.

- Mentoring
- Fighting Obesity
- Preventing Juvenile Crimes
- Providing a Safe Haven
- Increasing Educational Skills in Reading and Math
- Combating Mental Health
- Developing Leadership Skills
- Promoting Lifetime Fitness

Opportunities

General Operating Grants

Use the funds for anything that pertains to operating your program. Very flexible with the use of funds.

Specific Project Grants

Funds are used for a specific use. Write a grant for specific items and funds can only be used for that purpose.

Resources

Grant Sites

www.Grantstation.com

www.helloskip.com

– referral – Devin302@me.com

www.helloalice.com

www.grants.gov

www.Techsoup.org - Free software – get grant station for \$99 a year. Great for searching grants.

www.grantwatch.com

Grants To Apply For

Comcast NBCUniversal Foundation
Project innovation grant

Bank of America client foundation

www.Dell.org



Devin Fletcher
DevinFletcher@imperialdynasty.org
www.Imperialdynasty.org
302-521-8551

Statement of Need

The statement of need is critical to communicating the significant and urgent need to the funder. It establishes the focus and rationale of your larger grant application. By the end of the needs statement, the reviewer should have a clear understanding and recognition of the underlying problem, not just its symptoms.

In regards to my statement of need, My goal was to remove kids from the street and into a safe environment preventing juvenile crimes.

Imperial Dynasty Statement of Need

Youth are “resources to be developed, rather than problems to be solved.” Since 2003, Imperial Dynasty Indoor Arts Program has been working with inner city children and young adults by removing them from dangerous street corners and placing them in a positive, structured environment where they partake in a healthy youth development program of music and dance education—a program intended to provide them with the appropriate support and resources, positive experiences and opportunities, and caring relationships they need to become successful, productive, competent adults.

The need for this youth music program is twofold: (1) Funding cuts have greatly reduced, if not completely eliminated music education programs in schools, leaving children with no opportunity to develop musical talent or any of the related skills associated with music education, and (2) Appropriate and healthy youth development has been shown to enhance positive factors in the lives of those involved in such programs—factors such as school, family and community connectedness—as well as to reduce or prevent certain health-risk behaviors such as substance abuse, unsafe sexual practices and violence. Music education and appreciation is academic, emotional, physical and lifelong. The ancient Greek philosopher Plato said, “Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything.” Numerous studies have documented the value of music education in and on the lives of children. These benefits result in positive social development and academic achievement. A sampling of the benefits include: increased motivation and self-esteem, more positive peer and adult relationships, improved reading comprehension and language skills, a higher high school graduation rate, and improved social behavior and community involvement.

Anne-Marie Braga, MSSW, LCSW, recently produced a report entitled “Incorporating Youth Development into Prevention Programs”. This report included recommendations by such organizations as the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Initiative to Improve Adolescent Health to incorporate positive youth development into prevention programs. Her report also listed the components necessary to effective youth programs. Among others, an effective program should include or promote: a sense of safety, an appropriate structure, supportive relationships, positive social norms and skill building. In addition, a youth program should present participants with meaningful challenges and leadership/decision-making responsibilities, as well as family-school-community involvement.



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